

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-12  
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OSD:RKOMER  
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JCS: MG SHUTLER

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USCINCEUR  
USCINCRED MACDILL AFB  
USDELMC BRUSSELS  
USNMR SHAPE  
USLOSACLANT

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO

SUBJECT:NATO LONG-TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM READINESS TASK  
FORCE TEAM 2A  
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REF: SACEUR 311623Z OCT 77

1. IF MISSION, IN COORDINATION WITH USDELMC HAS NO  
OBJECTIONS, PLEASE PASS TO SACEUR (ATTN: RADM NICHOLSON)  
THE FOLLOWING RESPONSE TO SACEUR'S 311623Z OCT 77 FOR  
ACTION, AND TO APPROPRIATE NATO AGENCIES FOR INFORMATION.

2. BEGIN TEXT. SUMMARY. THE UNITED STATES CONTINUES TO SUPPORT EFFORTS TO INCREASE FORCE READINESS AND UPGRADE NATIONAL FORCE COMMITMENT TO NATO. THIS SUPPORT HAS BEEN REFLECTED IN RECENT US RESPONSES TO NATO DEFENSE PLANNING REVIEW QUESTIONNAIRE (DPQ). WHILE SPECIFIC PLANS ARE NOT

YET FIRM, IT IS LIKELY THAT THE US REPLY TO DPQ-78 WILL INCLUDE SOME ADDITIONAL INCREASES IN US FORCE COMMITMENTS. END SUMMARY.

3. FOLLOWING RESPONSES ARE KEYED TO SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS CONTAINED IN PARAGRAPH 7 OF REFTEL.

A. RECOMMENDATION: CONSIDER RECATEGORIZING ALL LAND FORCES IN QUOTE OTHER FORCES FOR NATO UNQUOTE CATEGORY EXCEPT SPECIAL FORCES GROUPS TO QUOTE EARMARKED UNQUOTE OR HIGHER CATEGORY OF COMMITMENT. COMMENT: AS NOTED BY THE UNITED STATES IN ITS NATIONAL REPLY TO NATO ON DEFENSE PLANNING FOR SHORT-TERM MEASURES, DOD SUPPORTS INITIATIVE TO EARMARK RAPIDLY DEPLOYABLE THREE-DIVISION CORPS AS AFCENT RESERVE, WITH PRIORITY OF EMPLOYMENT IN NORTHERN ARMY GROUP, CENTRAL EUROPE (NORTHAG), IN CONCERT WITH ALLIED PARTICIPATION IN RESOLUTION OF NORTHAG DEFICIENCIES. THE UNITED STATES IS CONSIDERING INCREASING THE NUMBER OF DIVISIONS EARMARKED FROM FOUR TO SIX.

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TWO ADDITIONAL EARMARKED DIVISIONS, EACH WITH TWO ACTIVE AND ONE RESERVE COMPONENT BRIGADE, WOULD REACH REQUIRED DEPLOYABILITY STATUS COMMENSURATE WITH ACHIEVEMENT OF RELATED PREPOSITIONED MATERIEL STOCKAGE OBJECTIVES, IDENTIFICATION AND PREPARATION OF NECESSARY STORAGE FACILITIES, AND AVAILABILITY OF REQUIRED STRATEGIC LIFT. POSSIBILITY OF UPGRADING COMMITMENT OF ADDITIONAL US LAND FORCES WILL BE ANALYZED IN DPQ-78 PLANNING PROCESS AND AFTER RECEIPT OF RESULTS OF SACEUR'S NOTIONAL REINFORCEMENT CONCEPT STUDY.

B. RECOMMENDATION: CONSIDER CATEGORIZING FOUR SPECIAL FORCES GROUPS TO HIGHER CATEGORY OF COMMITMENT, CAVEATING WITH REGARD TO USE IF NECESSARY. COMMENT: THIS PROPOSAL IS CONSIDERED TO HAVE MERIT BUT MUST BE EXAMINED IN GREATER DEPTH. SUCH EXAMINATION IS BEING UNDERTAKEN WITH A VIEW TOWARD A FORTHCOMING RESPONSE. IN THIS CONNECTION, IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR THE READINESS TASK FORCE, OR OTHER APPROPRIATE FORUM IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE LONG-TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM, TO EXAMINE ACE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE COMMAND, CONTROL, AND EMPLOYMENT OF UNCONVENTIONAL WARFARE (UW) FORCES. FURTHERMORE, THE US WOULD

BE INTERESTED IN THE VIEWS AND POSSIBLE FORCE CONTRIBUCTIONS OF OTHER ALLIES.

C. RECOMMENDATION: CONSIDER RECATEGORIZING US ARMY 2D INF DIV FROM QUOTE UNDER NATIONAL COMMAND UNQUOTE TO QUOTE EARMARKED UNQUOTE OR HIGHER CATEGORY OF COMMITMENT IF AND WHEN WITHDRAWN FROM PRESENT TASK. COMMENT: CURRENT LONG-RANGE PLANNING RELATED TO THE US ARMY 2D INF DIV PRECLUDES PROJECTING COMMITMENT OF THIS UNIT TO NATO AT THIS TIME.

D. RECOMMENDATION: CONSIDER RECATEGORIZING DIVISION AND BRIGADE QUOTE UNDER NATIONAL COMMAND UNQUOTE FOR STRATEGIC RESERVE PURPOSES TO QUOTE OTHER FORCES FOR NATO UNQUOTE  
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OR HIGHER CATEGORY, CAVEATING WITH REGARD TO USE IF

NECESSARY. COMMENT: RECATEGORIZING LIMITED FORCES HELD IN US STRATEGIC RESERVE IS NOT PRACTICABLE. THE US RETAINS UNDER NATIONAL COMMAND ONE RESERVE COMPONENT DIVISION AND FIVE BRIGADES (TWO ACTIVE AND THREE RESERVE COMPONENT) TO INFLUENCE CRITICAL SITUATIONS WORLD-WIDE, TO PROVIDE FOR UNEXPECTED FORCE REQUIREMENTS, AND TO SECURE CRITICAL AREAS DURING THE CONDUCT OF A GLOBAL WAR. THESE FORCES, WHILE UNDER NATIONAL COMMAND, WOULD CONTRIBUTE AS PART OF THE OVERALL EFFORT IN A WORLD-WIDE WAR WITH THE SOVIET UNION/WARSAW PACT. PLACING THESE UNITS IN THE QUOTE OTHER FORCES UNQUOTE CATEGORY WOULD BE MISLEADING SINCE A CAVEAT EXCEPTING THEM FROM THE PROVISIONS OF PARAGRAPH 4 BELOW WOULD BE NECESSARY.

E. RECOMMENDATION: CONSIDER ANY FURTHER UPWARD RECATEGORIZATION OF AIR FORCE SQUADRONS FROM QUOTE EARMARKED UNQUOTE TO QUOTE ASSIGNED UNQUOTE OR FROM QUOTE UNDER NATIONAL COMMAND UNQUOTE TO HIGHER CATEGORIZATION. COMMENT: AS A POINT OF CLARIFICATION, IN THE US REPLY TO DPQ-77, 10 FIGHTER AND 1 RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON WERE RECATEGORIZED FROM QUOTE OTHER FORCES FOR NATO UNQUOTE TO QUOTE ASSIGNED UNQUOTE INSTEAD OF TO QUOTE EARMARKED UNQUOTE AS STATED IN SACEUR 311623Z OCT 77. IT IS PRESENTLY PLANNED TO RECATEGORIZE ALL FIGHTER, RECONNAISSANCE, AND ELECTRONIC WARFARE SQUADRONS LISTED AS QUOTE OTHER FORCES FOR NATO UNQUOTE TO QUOTE EARMARKED UNQUOTE BY END 1981. FURTHER UPWARD RECATEGORIZATIONS ARE UNDER STUDY AND MAY BE INCLUDED IN THE US REPLY TO DPQ-78.

F. RECOMMENDATION: CONSIDER RECATEGORIZATION OF US  
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MARINE CORPS (USMC) 4TH DIVISION/WING FROM QUOTE UNDER NATIONAL COMMAND UNQUOTE TO HIGHER CATEGORY. COMMENT: BECAUSE TWO OF THE MAJOR OPTIONS FOR USE OF USMC 4TH DIVISION/WING RESOURCES IN WAR/CRISIS WOULD BE TO PROVIDE AUGMENTATION AND/OR REINFORCEMENT FOR ACTIVE DUTY FORCES SUCH AS I AND II MAF WHICH ARE ALREADY EARMARKED FOR NATO AS WELL AS III MAF WHICH IS NOT EARMARKED IN SUPPORT OF NATO, IT IS CONSIDERED PREFERABLE TO RETAIN THE 4TH DIVISION/WING UNDER NATIONAL COMMAND.

4. WHILE IT IS NOT PRESENTLY POSSIBLE TO UPGRADE FORMALLY THE COMMITMENT OF ADDITIONAL US FORCES IN QUOTE OTHER FORCES FOR NATO UNQUOTE CATEGORY, IT IS IMPORTANT TO EMPHASIZE THAT THE US APPROVED, IN PRINCIPLE, SACEUR'S CONCEPT FOR REINFORCEMENT OF ACE WHEN WE ENDORSED SACEUR'S PLAN FOR EMPLOYMENT OF ALLIED FORCES SO CATEGORIZED. SINCE QUOTE OTHER FORCES FOR NATO UNQUOTE CATEGORY UNITS ARE CONTAINED IN US REINFORCEMENT

PLANS FOR ACE AND TRI-MAJOR NATO COMMANDERS'REINFORCEMENT STUDY, IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THIS CATEGORY OF US LAND AND AIR FORCES, EXCEPT UW UNITS, BE INCLUDED IN SACEUR'S GENERAL WAR PLANS.

5. READINESS TASK FORCE (READTAF) EFFORTS TO STUDY LONG-TERM IMPROVEMENTS IN NATIONAL FORCE COMMITMENTS ARE STRONGLY SUPPORTED. RECOMMENDATIONS OF READTAF, AS WELL AS RESULTS OF SACEUR'S NOTIONAL REINFORCEMENT STUDY, WILL BE GIVEN FULL CONSIDERATION IN PREPARATION OF THE US REPLY TO DPQ-78. ADDITIONAL INITIATIVES TO UPGRADE US FORCE READINESS, AVAILABILITIES, AND COMMITMENTS WILL BE AGGRESSIVELY PURSUED IN CONTEXT OF US AND NATO SUPPORT CAPABILITY AND OTHER US WORLD-WIDE COMMITMENTS.

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## Message Attributes

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